

ABSTRACT

A magneto-optical recording medium wherein a magnetic domain is transferred from a recording layer to a reproducing layer is expanded. When the reproducing layer is formed, the composition ratio of a transition metal at a surface of the reproducing layer on a reproducing light beam-incoming side is made to be higher than the composition ratio of the transition metal at a surface of the reproducing layer on a side opposite to the reproducing light beam-incoming side. Thus, the operation to expand the magnetic domain, transferred from the recording layer to the reproducing layer, is performed smoothly, and the jitter of the reproduced signal is reduced to improve signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) of the reproduced signal.